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**CLAIMS:**

What is claimed is:

1. A method in a data processing system for identifying device configurations, the method comprising:

identifying unique identification information for a set of devices in the data processing system to form identified unique identification information;

comparing the identified unique identification information with previously identified unique identification information;

moving configuration data to a memory for devices in the set of devices in which a match exists between the identified unique identification information and the previously identified unique identification information for devices; and

obtaining configuration information from a device in which configuration information is absent in the memory after configuration data has been moved to the memory for the devices to form a current set of configuration data for the set of devices.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the memory is a temporary random access memory.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the unique identification information is a unique device identifier.

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4. The method of claim 1, wherein the current configuration data for the set of devices is stored in a set of files.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the unique identification information is identified by reading the unique identification information from the set of devices.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the previously identified unique identification information is stored in table associated with the configuration data for the set of devices.

7. A data processing system for identifying device configurations, the data processing system comprising:

identifying means for identifying unique identification information for a set of devices in the data processing system to form identified unique identification information;

comparing means for comparing the identified unique identification information with previously identified unique identification information;

moving means for moving configuration data to a memory for devices in the set of devices in which a match exists between the identified unique identification information and the previously identified unique identification information for devices; and

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obtaining means for obtaining configuration information from a device in which configuration information is absent in the memory after configuration data has been moved to the memory for the devices to form a current set of configuration data for the set of devices.

8. The data processing system of claim 7, wherein the memory is a temporary random access memory.

9. The data processing system of claim 7, wherein the unique identification information is a unique device identifier.

10. The data processing system of claim 7, wherein the current configuration data for the set of devices is stored in a set of files.

11. The data processing system of claim 7, wherein the unique identification information is identified by read the unique identification information from the set of devices.

12. The data processing system of claim 7, wherein the previously identified unique identification information is stored in table associated with the configuration data for the set of devices.

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13. A computer program product in a computer readable medium for identifying device configurations, the computer program product comprising:

first instructions for identifying unique identification information for a set of devices in the data processing system to form identified unique identification information;

second instructions for comparing the identified unique identification information with previously identified unique identification information;

third instructions for moving configuration data to a memory for devices in the set of devices in which a match exists between the identified unique identification information and the previously identified unique identification information for devices; and

fourth instructions for obtaining configuration information from a device in which configuration information is absent in the memory after configuration data has been moved to the memory for the devices to form a current set of configuration data for the set of devices.

14. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the memory is a temporary random access memory.

15. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the unique identification information is a unique device identifier.

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16. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the current configuration data for the set of devices is stored in a set of files.

17. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the unique identification information is identified by read the unique identification information from the set of devices.

18. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the previously identified unique identification information is stored in table associated with the configuration data for the set of devices.

19. A data processing system for performing device configuration rediscovery, the data processing system comprising:

- a bus system;
  - a communications unit connected to the bus system;
  - a memory connected to the bus system, wherein the memory includes a set of instructions; and
  - a processing unit connected to the bus system,
- wherein the processing unit executes the set of instructions to identify unique identification information for a set of devices in the data processing system to form identified unique identification information; compare the identified unique identification information with previously identified unique identification information; move configuration data to a memory for devices in the set of devices in which a match

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exists between the identified unique identification information and the previously identified unique identification information for devices; and obtain configuration information from a device in which configuration information is absent in the memory after configuration data has been moved to the memory for the devices to form a current set of configuration data for the set of devices.